



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FISH LANDINGS UP DURING THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1959

The catch of fish and shellfish in the United States during the first seven months of 1959 totaled over two billion pounds, an increase of 17 percent over the landings for the same period in 1958, the Department of the Interior reported today.

Data compiled by the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Fish and Wildlife Service, show an increase of 437 million pounds in the menhaden catch, an increase of eight million pounds in New England herring landings and an increase of six million pounds in whiting. The Atlantic fisheries accounted for 233 million pounds of the menhaden jump and Gulf fisheries accounted for the other 204 million pounds.

Other fisheries which showed increased landings were Alaska herring, up 10 million pounds; tuna in California, up nine million pounds; jack mackerel in California up nearly nine million pounds.

The biggest decrease was in Alaska salmon which dropped from 239 million pounds taken through August 16, 1958 to 122 million pounds landed by that day in 1959. Most of this decline was in pink and chum salmon which failed to return in expected numbers to central Alaska waters. Ocean perch landings on the East coast were down 12 million pounds; haddock down 10 million pounds and Pacific mackerel down 4 million pounds below comparable landings of last year.

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